

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A system that provides and installs at least one of device-specific functionalities and information for field devices, the field devices being arranged in a distributed system, wherein the distributed system has at least one device-specific component that communicates with at least two functional units the at least one device-specific component having means for automatically providing and installing at least one of device-specific functionalities and information for the field devices that are stored in the functional units.

2. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the arrangement is stored in a memory medium.

3. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the device-specific functionalities and information that is stored in the functional units is provided and installed in a higher-level control system or controller relating to the distributed system for the field devices.

4. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the device-specific functionalities and information that is stored in the functional units is installed by means of an automatically running installation process.

5. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein configuration tools are provided to install the communication between at least one of the field devices and with the higher-level control system or controller.

6. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein network components are provided for installation of the network links for a specific communication architecture.

7. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the functional units are at least one of device documentation, device core data, device parameters, device drivers, control functions, setting-up functions, diagnosis functions, maintenance functions, optimization functions, alarm processing functions, and life functions.

8. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one of device-specific components, the configuration tools, and the network components can be installed in an installation process.

9. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 7, wherein at least one of the device-specific components, the configuration tools, and the network components can be installed selectively.

10. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of drives, motor protection units, switchgear assemblies, sensors, in particular sensors for pressure, temperature and flow rate measurements, low voltage devices, actuators, and analysis devices are used as field devices.

11. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the device-specific functionalities and information is recorded as at least one of data structures and program components in the device-specific components.

12. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device-specific components are tested for at least one of correctness and completeness of at least one of the device-specific functionalities and information.

13. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device-specific components can be extended in a modular form.

14. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distributed system is a distributed automation system.

15. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the higher-level system is a process control system or a programmable logic controller.

16. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the field devices communicate with the higher-level control system or controller via a fieldbus protocol which is in the form of at least one of PROFIBUS, PROFINet, FOUNDATION fieldbus, and HART.

17. (Previously Presented) A method for directed provision and installation of device-specific functionalities and/or information for field devices which are arranged in a distributed system, with at least one device-specific component being provided, which interacts with at least two functional units which are linked to it, and by means of which at least one of device-specific functionalities and information which is stored in the functional units M for the field appliances are automatically provided and installed at least in one device-specific component.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the arrangement is stored in a memory medium.

19. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least one of the device-specific functionalities and information which is stored in the functional units is provided and installed in a higher-level control system or controller relating to the distributed system for the field devices.

20. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least one of the device-specific functionalities and information which is stored in the functional units is installed by means of an automatically running installation process.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein configuration tools are used for the installation of the communication between at least one of the field devices and with the higher-level control system or controller.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein network components are provided for installation of the network links for a specific communication architecture.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the functional units provide at least one of device documentation, device core data, device parameters, device drivers, control functions, setting-up functions, diagnosis functions, maintenance functions, optimization functions, alarm processing functions, and life functions.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least one of the device-specific components, the configuration tools, and the network components are installed in an installation process.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least one of the device-specific components, the configuration tools, and the network components are installed selectively.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least one of drives, motor protection units, switchgear assemblies, sensors, in particular sensors for pressure, temperature and flow rate measurements, low voltage devices, actuators and analysis devices are used as field devices.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least one of device-specific functionalities and information is recorded as at least one of data structures and program components in the device-specific components.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least one of correctness and completeness of at least one of the device-specific functionalities and information are tested.

29. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein modular extensions are provided in the device-specific components.

30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the distributed system is in the form of a distributed automation system.

31. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the higher-level system is in the form of a process control system or a programmable logic controller.

32. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the field devices communicate with the higher-level control system or controller via a fieldbus protocol which is in the form of at least one of PROFIBUS, PROFINet, FOUNDATION fieldbus, and HART.

33. (New) The method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the distributed system includes a network component and a controller, the method further comprising:

installing, in the controller, the device-specific functionalities and information for the device-specific components based on an interaction between the at least one device specific component, the at least two functional units, and the network component; and

checking, at the controller, the device-specific functionalities and information for the device-specific components for completeness.